

REMARKS

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office Action mailed July 5th, 2007. All objections and rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 4-11, 13-19, 22-29, 31-37, 40-47, 49-54 are pending in the case.

Claims 1, 14, 16-19, 28, 32, 34-37, 50, 52-54 have been amended.

No new claims have been added.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §101

At paragraph 1 of the Office Action claim 56 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101. Claim 56 is no longer pending in the case and accordingly the Applicant respectfully urges the rejection is now moot.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

At paragraphs 2-3 of the Office Action, claims 1-56 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Jacoby, U.S. Patent No. 5,768,552, (hereinafter “Jacoby”) in view of Tonelli et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,821,937 (hereinafter “Tonelli”), in further view of Planas et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,112,015 (hereinafter “Planas”).

The Applicant’s claim 1, representative in part of the other rejected claims, sets forth:

1. A method for graphically presenting characteristics of data traffic on a distributed computer network, comprising:

monitoring traffic on said network;

selecting a characteristic of said traffic for display;

obtaining a plurality of values of said characteristic for selected time intervals within a larger time interval;

presenting said characteristic by playing a rapid succession of graphical images, each graphical image representing said network as nodes connected by lines, said lines representing traffic flow between nodes, ***each graphical image graphically representing the value of said characteristic at a particular selected time interval within the larger time interval with a property of at least one line of said lines, said property indicating a value of said characteristic.***

Jacoby describes a network monitor that gathers network information and generates a display that depicts host computers in the network. *See* col. 6, lines 50-57 and Fig. 3A-C. “[N]etwork activity may be shown with color-coded, dashed, or shaded line segments connecting to host computers between which packets are actively being transferred.” *See* col. 7, lines 3-5.

Tonelli discusses a software package for designing a computer network. The software performs an “audit” of an existing network to discover how the network is arranged. *See* col. 2, lines 24-36. The software allows a user to design a revision to the network, by “generating a network design sheet representative of the network based upon the configuration discovered in the audit, placing device icons...on the network design sheet, and selecting a media type... and connecting the media type to a first one of the device icons....” *See* col. 22, lines 37-47.

Planas discusses a network monitor that displays alarms for network devices. Alarms may be represented by an “alarm bubble” or by changing the appearance of an icon. *See* Figs. 15-19. An alarm may also be represented in text form in a “Alarm Manager” window which displays a time stamp. *See* Fig. 21c.

The Applicant respectfully urges that the combination of Jacoby, Tonelli, and Planas does not teach or suggest the Applicant’s claimed ***“obtaining a plurality of values of said characteristic for selected time intervals within a larger time interval”*** and ***“presenting said characteristic by playing a rapid succession of graphical images... each graphical image graphically representing the value of said characteristic at a particular selected time interval within the larger time interval with a property of at least one line of said lines, said property indicating a value of said characteristic.”***

The Applicant novelly presents a “movie clip” like display by ***playing a rapid succession of graphical images, each graphical image graphically representing the value of said characteristic at a particular selected time interval within the larger time interval.*** In this manner a network administrator or other user may more readily interpret

large amounts of data and how it changes over time. Jacoby, Tonelli and Planas do not suggest obtaining data for and displaying such data graphically in the manner claimed by the Applicant. Each of the references appears to suggest either static displays, or displays that display the present network configuration. Such displays do not suggest a succession of graphical images for a larger time interval.


Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully urges that combination of Jacoby, Tonelli, and Planas is legally insufficient to make obvious the present claims under 35 U.S.C. §103 because of the absence of the Applicant's claimed novel "***obtaining a plurality of values of said characteristic for selected time intervals within a larger time interval***" and "***presenting said characteristic by playing a rapid succession of graphical images... each graphical image graphically representing the value of said characteristic at a particular selected time interval within the larger time interval with a property of at least one line of said lines, said property indicating a value of said characteristic.***"

In the event that the Examiner deems personal contact desirable in disposition of this case, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned attorney at (617) 951-2500.

In summary, all the independent claims are believed to be in condition for allowance and therefore all dependent claims that depend there from are believed to be in condition for allowance. The Applicant respectfully solicits favorable action.

Please charge any additional fee occasioned by this paper to our Deposit Account No. 03-1237.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Blanchette", written over a horizontal line.

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